

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC RO

SUBJECT: ARTICLE III(2) CULTURAL SPECIALIST NOMINATION:
ION LASCU

REF: BUCHAREST 2168

1. AS WE INDICATED IN REFTEL ON CU COUNTRY BUDGET, "WE DO NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE ROMANIANS THEMSELVES WILL COME UP WITH PROPOSALS." HERewith AN EXAMPLE: EMBASSY RECEIVED APRIL 24 NOMINATING LETTER FOR ION LASCU, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SAHIA FILM STUDIOS (ROMANIAN DOCUMENTARY FILM COMPANY), TO VISIT U S FOR THIRTY DAYS AS CULTURAL SPECIALIST UNDER ARTICLE III (2) OF THE PROGRAM. NOMINATING LETTER STATES THAT LASCU WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE FOR U S MAY 27. CONSIDERING SHORT NOTICE, WE CALLED COUNCIL TO INFORM THEM THAT WE COULD NOT GUARANTEE THAT LASCU COULD BE PROGRAMMED SO QUICKLY AND ASKED FOR ALTERNATIVE DATES. THEY IN TURN HAVE TALKED WITH LASCU, WHO SAYS THAT, ALTHOUGH HE WOULD MUCH PREFER TO BEGIN PROGRAM IN LATE MAY HE ALSO WOULD BE WILLING TO GO IN JUNE OR JULY, ALSO FOR FULL THIRTY-DAY GRANTS. BASED UPON PROGRAMMING SUGGESTIONS BELOW, PLS ADVISE SOONEST IF MAY 27 DATE POSSIBLE, AND IF NOT, WHAT ALTERNATIVE PERIOD IN JUNE OR JULY WILL BE ACCEPTABLE.

2. LASCU BIO DATA: BORN SEPT 25 , 1920 AT ASTELEU-BIHOR ROMANIA; CURRENTLY DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND PRODUCTION MANAGER OF
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SAHIA FILM STUDIOS, ROMANIA'S SOLE DOCUMENTARY FILM MAKING ORGANIZATION; GRADUATE OF LAW FACULTY OF UNIVERSITY OF BUCHAREST AND ACADEMY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES; HAS WORKED IN CINEMA FOR 25 YEARS, FIRST IN FIL M DISTRIBUTION THEN AS MANAGER FOR IMPORT AND EXPORT OF FILMS AND AS DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL AND PRESS RELATIONS FOR ROMANIA FILM; FOR 15 YEARS WORKED AS PRODUCER AND ECONOMIC AND PRODUCTION MANAGER AT BUFTEA STUDIOS. ROMANIA'S FEATURE FILM ORGANIZATION; FOR PAST THREE YEARS HAS WORKED AT SAHIA; ALSO IS PROFESSOR OF FILM ECONOMY AT THE INSTITUTE FOR THEATRE AND CINEMATOGRAPHIC ARTS AND A MEMBER OF THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF THE ROMANIAN CINEMATOGRAPHER'S ASSOCIATION; LASCU SPEAKS FRENCH.

3. PROGRAMMING SUGGESTIONS: LASCU WOULD LIKE TO STUDY THE ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN FEATURE FILM AND DOCUMENTARY FILM STUDIOS, INCLUDING THEIR ECONOMIC ASPECTS; THE ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE MAJOR FILM DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES AND CINEMA NETWORKS; THE PRESENT STATE OF FILM STUDIOS IN THE U S; AND CURRENT TRENDS IN AMERICAN CINEMA CONCERNING PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION. LASCU WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH WASHINGTON

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BASED FILM ORGANIZATIONS THAT DEAL WITH SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILMS; AND WITH THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC ORGANIZATIONS: INTERNATIONAL FILM IMPORTERS AND DISTRIBUTORS OF AMERICA (NEW YORK); NEW YORK OFFICES OF UNITED ARTISTS, COLUMBIA AND MPA; THE FILM DIVISIONS OF CBS AND NBC; ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA AND JOURNAL FILMS IN CHICAGO; ASSOCIATION OF MOTION PICTURE AND TELEVISION PRODUCERS IN LOS ANGELES; THE STUDIOS OF MGM, WARNER BROTHERS, UNIVERSAL, COLUMBIA, PARAMOUNT AND 20TH CENTURY FOX IN L.A.; AND THE DEPARTMENTS OF FILM STUDIES AT UCLA AND UCAL BERKELEY. ONE OF THE SUBJECTS HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS IN HIS MEETINGS IS THE POSSIBILITIES OF ESTABLISHING AGREEMENTS FOR FILM COOPERATION BETWEEN AMERICAN AND ROMANIAN PRODUCERS.

4. WE ALSO RECOMMEND LASCU BE GIVEN A TOUR OF USIA/IMV DURING HIS STAY IN WASHINGTON. LASCU IS KNOWN TO P&C AND WE CONSIDER HIM AN EXCELLENT PARTICIPANT FOR THE PROGRAM OF COOPERATION AND EXCHANGES.
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